

NH EMS Medical Control Board**MEETING MINUTES** (Approved)**November 16, 2017**

9:00AM

Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy
Classrooms 5 & 6, Dormitory Building
98 Smokey Bear Blvd., Concord, NH 03301

Members present:

James Suozzi, Chair; Kenneth Call, Trevor Eide, David Hirsch, Frank Hubbell, Joshua Morrison, Joey Scollan, John Seidner (8)

Members absent:

Brian Sweeney, Thomas Trimarco, and Harry Wallus (3)

Pending members present:

Nicholas Larochelle, Andrew Seefeld, John Freese, and Michelle Nathan (4)

NOTE: A formal vote to ratify the new members and re-appointed members will take place in January.

NH FST&EMS Staff:

Nick Mercuri, Chief of Strategy and Planning; Captains Vicki Blanchard, Chip Cooper, and Kathy Higgins-Doolan; Gerard Christian, Richard Cloutier, Joanne Lahaie, and Paula Holigan (8)

Guests:

Aaron McIntire, Kevin Blinn, Craig Clough, Jeanne Erickson, Steve Erickson, Bruce Goldthwaite, Eric Jaeger, Andrew Merelman, Richard O'Brien, David Rivers, Jeffrey Stewart, Grant Turpin, Patrick Twomey (13)

I. Welcome**a. Introductions / Disclosures / Membership**

- Dr. David Hirsch (Region IV) – Last meeting today after 7 years of service on the MCB.

GOOD LUCK DR. HIRSCH!

REGION II:

- Dr. Patrick Lee (Southern NH Medical Center) – Recommended by Region II
- Dr. Michelle Nathan – waiting on letter from Region II
- Dr. John Seidner – recommended for re-appointment by Region II
- Dr. Brian Sweeney – waiting on letter from Region II

REGION III:

- Dr. Harry Wallus (Portsmouth Regional Hospital) – Recommended for re-appointment by Region III
- Dr. John Freese (Frisbie Memorial Hospital) – NOT taking Trevor Eide's place! Need corrected letter from Region III.

REGION IV:

- Dr. Andrew Seefeld (Speare Memorial Hospital) – Recommended by Region IV

- Dr. Nicholas Larochelle (Concord Hospital) – Recommended by Region IV
 - Joshua Morrison (LRG-Healthcare) – Recommended for re-appointment by Region IV
- b. 2018 Schedule – **Motion made (Seidner/Scollan)** – to approve the 2018 MCB meeting schedule; passed unanimously.

II. Approval of the minutes

Motion made (Call/Seidner) – to approve the minutes from the September 21, 2017 MCB meeting; passed unanimously.

III. Division / Committee Reports

a. Bureau of EMS and Division updates

Chief Nick Mercuri reported the following on behalf of Director Pendergast and Assistant Director Phillips:

- Facilities – new seating, carpeting and lighting in the auditorium! There are now 140 very comfortable/padded seats!
- New technical rescue prop dealing with doors and windows – working on getting this out to services
- EMS in the Warm Zone Operations – this online course is on the website.
- EMS Mobile Simulator Training Coordinator position – final interview was held
- Southeast NH Captain/Coordinator Position – completed interviews
- Fire Investigator Certification Program – new at the Academy; will be coming up for ProBoard approval shortly
- National Fallen Firefighters training is scheduled; Stress First Aid for Emergency Responders and Occupational Fire Service Cancer; dates will be announced.
- Funding: **The State Fire Academy is looking for ideas for our state funding grant. This AFG grant has been used to purchase needed equipment as well as an ambulance and fire truck. Please contact Vicki Blanchard if you have any suggestions.**
- A recent meeting was held with S.O.L.O. about taking a look at the exam process as well as the PEETE process.

7 pieces of legislation will be proposed this year:

- 1) Criminal History Background Check
- 2) Clearing up a conflict about where funds get deposited – General Fund or Fire Fund
- 3) Removing data pieces in 21-P so that Chip Cooper’s data team will not be under Health and Human Services
- 4) REPLICA Compact – This got filed and a senator was found who has agreed to support it. **Please let Chief Mercuri know if you have any questions about this; help will be needed to get it through, so it is important that everyone understand what it involves.**
- 5) Separation of State Medical Director and State Medical Control Board Chair so that State Medical Director can get paid and so that there will be no perceived or actual conflict between the 2 positions.
- 6) Exemption of rule that deals with the protocol version from the rule making process so that we can go from the Protocol Committee to a Public Hearing to the MCB for a vote.
- 7) Withdrawal of proposed legislation about allowing family members to make the determination as to where an ambulance should go rather than EMS providers; will probably be pulled but not sure yet.

Grants:

- Awarding of \$75,000 grant from the Governor's Commission: This will involve more law enforcement training with Narcan as well as developing an additional awareness module for first responders; we will be collaborating with Health and Human Services.
- Awarding of 3.1 million dollars (about \$800,000/year) "Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration" (**SAMHSA**) grant to get more first responders to deliver Narcan and interact more with at-risk people to help them get needed services. The Division will hire 2 full time people for this; more information will be forthcoming.

EMS Rules that expire in September:

Our Governor's mandate from last March was to streamline everything; Assistant Director Jeffrey Phillips and other NHFST&EMS staffers are working on this.

b. Coordinating Board update

- Frank Hubbell reported. The CB meeting was held on September 21, 2017
- Highlights of the September meeting:
 - * Nick Valentini gave an update on CARES
 - * Sue Prentiss spoke about the EMS Compact
 - * A discussion was held about EMS provider safety and how it relates to hours of work as well as a discussion on provider work force retention.
 - * Janet Houston was recognized for her service to EMS, especially on behalf of children.
 - * Protocols will be done in a few weeks.
- The next CB meeting is scheduled this afternoon, November 16, 2017.
- Here is the link to the minutes for CB meetings:
<https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/ems/boards/coordinating/cbminutes.html>

c. Trauma Medical Review Committee update

- Kenneth Call reported. The TMRC met on October 18, 2017.
- Highlights of the meeting:
 - * The Trauma Triage Roll-out on NHOODLE was shown and discussed.
 - * Gerard Christian spoke about the work that has been completed on a draft copy of a data dictionary that goes along with the state's trauma registry; this is the first step in collecting a data set that will be collected from all of the hospitals that participate in the system.
 - * CMC received their Level III designation.
- The next meeting of the TMRC is scheduled for December 20, 2017 at 9:30AM.
- Here is the link to the minutes for TMRC meetings:
https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/ems/boards/traumamedicalreview/trauma_minutes.html

d. Drug Diversion meeting (**See attachment**)

Jeff Stewart reported. The education program was updated and explained to the MCB members; Jeff asked for feedback before presenting the program to the Hospital Pharmacist group. Finally, it will be showed in April at the EMS Summit.

Motion made (Eide/Hirsch) – *to endorse the UCDC training program as presented and support it being brought forward to the Hospital Pharmacist group for review and feedback; passed unanimously.*

IV. Protocol

Report submitted by Vicki Blanchard:

- a. Versions versus Years:
Historically, we have released our protocols on a two-year cycle and referenced them by the year of the release. We have changed the referencing of the protocols to “versions”; this edition of the protocols will be Version 7, as it is the 7th time we have released a statewide protocol set. If there is a protocol change mid-cycle of a complete review of the protocol set, we will reference the update as Version 7.01, etc. When the complete set has been reviewed again we will then re-reference the protocols as Version 8. As we partner with our neighboring states, we will release the NH EMS Patient Care Protocols, Version 7 on January 1, 2018, the same date Maine and Vermont will release their EMS protocols.
- b. Protocol Rollout:
The Protocol Rollout is in the alpha testing phase; there are some navigational issues being corrected and then it will go to the Protocol Workgroup for beta testing. Finally, it will be released in December so that EMS providers may begin the education on the new protocol before its January 1st release date.
- c. Hypoglycemia:
Currently we define hypoglycemia in adults as a blood glucose level 70 mg/dL or less. In an effort to continue to align our protocols with our neighbors, Maine and Vermont Dr. Suozzi suggested we change our protocols to define hypoglycemia in adults to 60 mg/dL.
Motion made (Morrison/Seidner) – to change the definition of hypoglycemia from 70 to 60 mg/dl; passed unanimously.
- d. TXA:
There was discussion on whether or not to add a bullet to the TXA protocol suggesting providers bring a patient who has received TXA to a hospital capable of administering a second dose if needed. Discussion included the lack of evidence proving a second dose was beneficial as well as if EMS units were not given TXA by their medical resource hospital and the MRH also didn't have it, it would matter but if the MRH did have it and gave it to an EMS unit, they would be able to continue the therapy. It was decided to not change the protocol.
Motion made (Eide/Seidner) – to leave out wording about transferring to a hospital capable of continuing TXA therapy; passed unanimously.

(See **V. Old Business** (b) below for a note about PIFT.)

V. Old Business

- a. Cardiac Arrest / CARES update
 - * A successful “mini” version of the Cardiac Arrest module was given at Northern NH EMS Conference. A discussion was held as to how best to get the word out about this topic. It will be added to the agenda for the scope of practice meeting; from there, it goes to the Coordinating Board. Chief Mercuri stressed the need for an implementation plan.
This topic should stay on the agenda for the January meeting.
 - * CARES: Dr. Freese will be the MCB's physician advocate/representative for this. Chip Cooper gave an update on the exports. At this point, it is a slow process; the hope is to have it working properly within the next month.
 - * Kudos to Dave Rivers; our CPR rates are much better than the national average!
- b. PIFT: Vicki Blanchard added that PIFT/RSI and the other prerequisite protocol expiration dates will be the same as the EMS Unit license expiration date. She will notify the units with off years.

VI. New Business

- a. Dave Rivers spoke about Poison Control and 911; he asked the MCB whether or not EMS providers want to work with Poison Control during an event. A discussion ensued about the

challenges involved. A memo was sent out about this topic; the feedback will be discussed at the January meeting.

- b. Chief Nick Mercuri summarized the results of the town hall meetings that were held over the summer and into September enlisting feedback about fire and EMS services in the state. **(See attachment)**
- c. Chip Cooper introduced Joanne Lahaie, the new data analyst.
- d. RSI training: This has been scripted but is not yet available up on NHOODLE; it comes with a manual which was sent to all of the RSI units. Though the training cannot be mandated, it can be recommended.
- e. Helicopters being used to transport to Level II trauma centers: Eric Jaeger said this is causing some confusion amongst providers who may not be aware of designation level differences; helicopters used to transport only to Level I trauma centers. How is the communication being handled so that providers are aware of rationales involved in the decision making process? A discussion ensued. Clarification on this topic could be written into a trauma plan.

VII. Topics Ad Libitum

- a. Jim Suozzi will be stepping down as chair of the MCB in January though he will remain on the MCB as a member.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion was made (Seidner/Hubbell) – to adjourn at 11:30AM; passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: January 18, 2018

(Minutes written by June Connor)